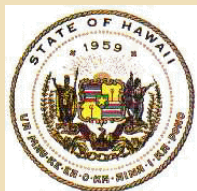




Hawaii Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund Newsletter for Retiree Participants
July 2008



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EUTF

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Message from the Chairman of the Board

As the fiscal year, July 1, 2007 - June 30, 2008, comes to a close; I want to thank the EUTF membership, the Board of Trustees, and the staff for my tenure as the Chairman of the EUTF Board. It was indeed an honor to assume the chairmanship as my term on the board comes to a close also.

Along with the diligent effort of the trustees, the staff has done an outstanding job in carrying out the mandates of the Board. It made the work of the trustees very fruitful with such an outstanding staff headed by Jim Williams, Administrator and Larry Nishihara, Assistant Administrator.

I, along with the Board, have always advocated providing the best health and insurance benefits, with the funds provided. The EUTF, with support of the legislature, the administration and the public sector unions, will continue to provide the best policies and programs for public employees.

Mahalo and Aloha.

Gerald K. Machida
Chairman



WE HAVE A WINNER!

Thanks to all who entered the Name the Newsletter contest. Congratulations to the top three finalists out of 175 entries:

Ka Leo O EUTF (The Voice of EUTF)
Submitted by: Donnell Yamashita

EUTF HI-Lights
Submitted by: Elena Sakugawa

Pono News (Benefit News)
Submitted by: Heather Kimura

All three winners received a \$25 VISA gift card.

EUTF HI-Lights

This section will be a new part of the newsletter and will highlight various topics that are important to you! In this newsletter, we will introduce you to the EUTF staff.

Did you know?....

- ❖ EUTF Staff count is 26
- ❖ EUTF is organized under three branches; Financial Services Branch, Information Systems Branch and Member Services Branch.
- ❖ On March 18, 2008, the new EUTF telephone system was installed. As a result, the EUTF has been able to answer over 95% of all incoming calls since its implementation.

Let's Talk Shop With:

Member Services:

This department consists of seven (7) Customer Service Representatives who handle both active and retiree issues and four (4) Enrollment Service Representatives where two (2) handle Active participant enrollments and the other two (2) handle Retiree participant enrollments.

Biggest challenge: Change of Address

With the EUTF newsletters and any notifications that must be sent to retirees, it is very crucial that EUTF has your most updated address. Please provide this information as soon as possible to ensure your benefits will continue and notifications will be sent to you in a timely manner. Please submit an EC-2 form whenever there is an address change. EUTF and Carriers periodically send information directly to your address. Keep informed about your benefits – notify EUTF of your new address!

For further information, you can visit the website at www.eutf.hawaii.gov. Mahalo!

Pono (Benefit) News

REMINDER: Retiree Open Enrollment is scheduled for mid-October, with changes effective January 1, 2009. The retirees' plan year is now the calendar year, in order to coincide with the annual open enrollment for Medicare plans! Final dates will be provided to you in the next newsletter.

State of Hawaii
Hawaii Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund
P.O. Box 2121
Honolulu, Hawaii 96805-2121

Carrier Corner

Updated Carrier Information can be found online at www.eutf.hawaii.gov or www.hieutf.org.

Important Update from HDS:

Your HDS dental plan maximum will continue on a July-June basis. This means that as an enrolled EUTF retiree, you and your covered dependents, will receive the full \$1,000 plan maximum on July 1, 2008. The maximum will continue to refresh every July 1st.

HIP (Handy Info for Participants) Notes (Keep this information handy!)

Qualifying Events

Please fill out an EC-2 Form and mail it to EUTF if any of these events occur:

- Marriage, divorce or legal separation, or entry into or exit from a domestic partnership relationship
- Loss of coverage
- Death of a dependent

Make sure to provide the necessary supporting documents to ensure your benefits continue after the effective date of the qualifying event. If supporting documents are missing, there may be a delay in the continuance of your coverage.

Summertime is traveling time!!

Summertime can be so much fun especially when you are traveling abroad. The carriers of EUTF want to remind you of the following tips:

1. **Your Benefits** – Don't forget your medical and other benefit cards. Keep them handy if there is any emergency. Be informed of the nearest hospital or physician's office at your travel destination.
2. **Your Medex Travel Assistance Card** – As part of the features of your Basic Life Insurance benefit from Standard Insurance Company, please review this feature before you travel. Make sure to fill out the card provided in the brochure and keep it handy while traveling. You may obtain a card by going to the carrier's website: <http://www.standard.com/mybenefits/hawaiieutf/> and click on [MEDEX® Travel Assist](#). All services must be arranged by MEDEX Assistance Corporation. No claims for reimbursement will be accepted. Please read this brochure carefully.
3. **Prescriptions filled while away from Hawaii** - Vacation overrides for prescription drugs are limited to an additional 30-day supply to accommodate the period of an average vacation period. Participants enrolled in the EUTF plan are able to receive up-to a 90-day supply of medications at retail pharmacies with a co-payment for each 30-day supply received. Vacation overrides would provide an additional 30-day supply giving the EUTF participant a total of a 4-month supply with the applicable co-payment. Participants traveling within the United States can take advantage of the NMHC national pharmacy network to have prescriptions filled at participating pharmacies while away from Hawaii. To locate a participating pharmacy in a given geographic area, Participants should call NMHC at 866-533-6977 or register at www.mynmhc.com. Participants traveling abroad are eligible for reimbursement of medications by submitting their pharmacy receipts to NMHC for processing.

HIP Notes on Medicare Part B and Medicare Part D can be found on www.hieutf.org